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Carter County Tomorrow, LLC March 25, 2013 **Board Meeting Minutes** Hosted by Sycamore Shoals Hospital (0-25, 2013 COUNTY CLERK Patoy H. Lower

Present – Dwayne Taylor, Rob Toney, Steve Lowrance, Keith Hart, Delisa LeFleur, Richard Tester, Chandrea Shell, Sonja Culler, John Thompson, Jim Shepherd, Jon Hartman, Annika Hampton, Tonya Stevens, Kim Eggers, Tom Anderson, Nathan Baker.

January minutes approved: motion made by Chandrea Shell 2<sup>nd</sup> by Richard Tester motion passed.

January Financial report: motion made by Sonja Culler 2<sup>nd</sup> by Richard Tester motion passed.

Jon Hartman updated on the Riverfront Project to extend westward from Mill Street to Sycamore Shoals Hospital and north from Elk Avenue to the Watauga River. He said a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district in that area would be a way to make improvements without raising property taxes. This is a way to build infrastructure and give incentives for businesses to locate for that district. The "TIF" can only be used for improvements to that particular district. He is getting plans together to present to City Council within the next 6 months.

## Reports:

Kim Eggers presented the 2013-2014 Partnership Proposed Budgets. Motion made by Sonja Culler 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chandrea Shell. Motion passed for approval.

Tourism - Annika Hampton updated on the 100 things to do in Carter County giveaway basket will be given away during Covered Bridge Celebration. The value is well over \$2,000. Also she is working with Appalachian Trail & AV to promote over 80 bike trails in our community. Also partnering with WBEJ and Wahoo rafting in playing trivia game on Wednesday's to give free rafting trip to correct answer. She is also focusing on more retirees to come to

Chamber - Tonya Stevens updated that the Legislative Breakfast went well. She is making strides with membership dues. River Clean Up is set for April 27<sup>th</sup> sponsoring the event is Watauga River Water Authority. Also working on the Covered Bridge Celebration and the entertainment schedule is lined up.

Workforce Development Complex - Kim Eggers reported that the fire dampers, duct detectors and new fire alarms in Building #2 are now complete and passed state inspection. The work on the Northeast State College expansion is now in progress for the Biology Lab. Completed the 2013-2014 Partnership budgets. The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Catfish tournament date is set for June 8.

Economic Development - Tom Anderson updated on working with 2 different businesses, possible 250 jobs to area. Meeting is planned with German Company on the Borla property. Also working to extend PIOT agreement with STL new owners. Plans are complete on the SIA road with TDOT and TDEC waiting on landowners to release land. The signalization for Don Lewis Bivd and hospital is projected to bid in April. Also reported that M & R Acquisitions purchased the North American Rayon plants to demolish (in progress) and market the property to promote the Riverfront Project.

Next meeting June 24, 2013 at Chamber of Commerce Meeting Adjourned: Motion made by Richard Tester 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sonja Culler.

